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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/782,340	02/18/2004	Chin-Shiou Huang	ASPI/0002.C1	5408

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PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.
3040 POST OAK BOULEVARD
SUITE 1500
HOUSTON, TX 77056

EXAMINER

EPPERSON, JON D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1639

DATE MAILED: 02/08/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/782,340

Applicant(s)

HUANG, CHIN-SHIOU

Examiner

Jon D. Epperson

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27, 46-54, 56 and 67 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27, 46-54, 56 and 57 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restriction

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-27, drawn to a product for described as a surface imprint composition, classified variously in 435, 6, DIG 22.
 - II. Claims 46-54, 56 and 57, drawn to a method for capturing molecules, classified variously in 435, 7.1, DIG 2.
2. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:
3. Inventions I and II are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product of (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case (1) the process of using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product (e.g., compositions containing cavities that were chemically synthesized without the use of imprinting).
4. These inventions have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification and/or divergent subject matter. The different methods and products would require completely different searches in both the patent and non-patent databases, and there is no

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expectation that the searches would be coextensive. Therefore, this does create an undue search burden, and restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Species Election

5. This application contains claims directed to patentably distinct species of the claimed invention for Groups I and II. Election is required as follows.

6. If applicant elects the invention of Group I, applicant is required to elect from the following patentably distinct species. Claim 1 is generic.

Subgroup 1: Species of matrix material (e.g., see claims 1 and 3)

Applicant must elect, for the purposes of search, a ***single species*** of matrix material (e.g., polystyrene). Applicants must further elect a monomer that is being polymerized e.g., styrene (see claim 3). Applicants must also indicate whether said matrix material is a heat-sensitive compound (see claim 4) and, if so, elect a specific heat-sensitive compound e.g., agarose (see claim 5).

Subgroup 2: Species of template molecule (e.g., see claims 1 and 10)

Applicant must elect, for the purposes of search, a ***single species*** of template molecule e.g., oligosaccharide (see claim 10). In addition, Applicants must further elect the length of the template e.g., 4 amino acids (e.g., see claim 11, see also claim 56). Please do not elect a range of sizes. Applicants must further indicate whether said peptide constitutes the N-terminus or C-terminus of the peptide (e.g., see claim 16).

Subgroup 3: Species of macromolecule (e.g., see claims 1 and 10)

Applicant must elect, for the purposes of search, a ***single species*** of macromolecule e.g., peptide (see claim 10).

Subgroup 4: Species of array (e.g., see claims 24-26)

Applicant must elect, for the purposes of search, a ***single species*** of array (e.g., 1D, 2D, 3D).

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Subgroup 5: Species of cavities (e.g., see claim 27)

Applicant must elect, for the purposes of search, a *single species* of cavities (i.e., oriented or not).

7. If applicant elects the invention of Group II, applicant is required to elect from the following patentably distinct species. Claim 46 is generic.

Subgroup 1: Species of matrix material (e.g., see claim 46)

Applicant must elect, for the purposes of search, a *single species* of matrix material (e.g., polystyrene). Applicants must further elect a monomer that is being polymerized e.g., styrene (see claim 3). Applicants must also indicate whether said matrix material is a heat-sensitive compound (see claim 4) and, if so, elect a specific heat-sensitive compound e.g., agarose (see claim 5).

Subgroup 2: Species of template molecule (e.g., see claim 46)

Applicant must elect, for the purposes of search, a *single species* of template molecule e.g., oligosaccharide (see claim 10). In addition, Applicants must further elect the length of the template e.g., 4 amino acids (e.g., see claim 11, see also claim 56). Please do not elect a range of sizes. Applicants must further indicate whether said peptide constitutes the N-terminus or C-terminus of the peptide (e.g., see claim 16).

Subgroup 3: Species of macromolecule (e.g., see claim 46)

Applicant must elect, for the purposes of search, a *single species* of macromolecule e.g., peptide (see claim 10).

Subgroup 4: Species of array (e.g., see claim 46)

Applicant must elect, for the purposes of search, a *single species* of array (e.g., 1D, 2D, 3D).

Subgroup 5: Species of cavities (e.g., see claim 46)

Applicant must elect, for the purposes of search, a *single species* of cavities (i.e., oriented or not).

Subgroup 6: Species of molecule (e.g., see claim 46)

Applicant must elect, for the purposes of search, a *single species* of molecule (e.g., protein).

Subgroup 7: Species of quantification (e.g., see claim 52)

Applicant must elect, for the purposes of search, a *single species* of molecule (e.g., fluorescence, resistance, capacitance, etc.).

8. **Please Note:** Applicants must disclose which claims read on the elected species (see paragraphs 12 and 13 below).
9. The species are distinct, each from the other, because their structures and modes of action are different. They would also differ in their reactivity and the starting materials from which they are made. For different species of method, the method steps for each species would differ. Moreover, the above species can be separately classified. Consequently, the species have different issues regarding patentability and represent patentably distinct subject matter. Therefore, this does create an undue search burden, and election for examination purposes as indicated is proper.
10. Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.
11. Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to

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be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

12. Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement **must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added.** An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered **nonresponsive** unless accompanied by an election.

13. Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, **applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species.** MPEP § 809.02(a).

14. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.43). Because the above restriction/election requirement is complex, a telephone call to applicants to request an oral election was not made. See MPEP § 812.01.

15. Applicant is reminded that upon cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the

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currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

16. Applicant is also reminded that a 1 – month (not less than 30 days) shortened statutory period will be set for response when a written requirement is made without an action on the merits. This period may be extended under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). Such action will not be an “action on the merits” for purposes of the second action final program, see MPEP 809.02(a).

17. Finally, Applicant is reminded that where applicant elects claims directed to a product, and a product claim is subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be rejoined in accordance with the provisions of MPEP § 821.04. **Process claims that depend from or otherwise include all the limitations of the patentable product** will be entered as a matter of right if the amendment is presented prior to final rejection or allowance, whichever is earlier. Amendments submitted after final rejection are governed by 37 CFR 1.116; amendments submitted after allowance are governed by 37 CFR 1.312.

In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102,

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103, and 112. Until an elected product claim is found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowed product claim will not be rejoined.

See "Guidance on Treatment of Product and Process Claims in light of *In re Ochiai*, *In re Brouwer* and 35 U.S.C. § 103(b)," 1184 O.G. 86 (March 26, 1996). Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, Applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution either to maintain dependency on the product claims or to otherwise include the limitations of the product claims. **Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder.**

Further, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See MPEP § 804.01.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jon D Epperson whose telephone number is (571) 272-0808. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday from 9:00 to 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Wang can be reached on (571) 272-0811. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1600.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

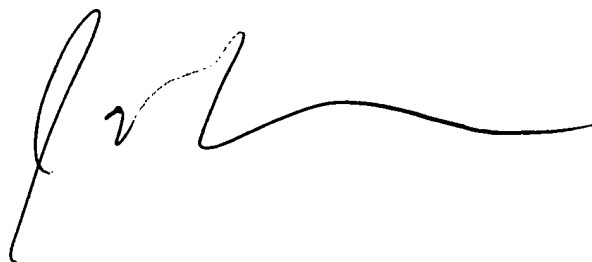
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Jon D. Epperson, Ph.D.

February 5, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jon D. Epperson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.